

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 DRC-01 /140 W

----- 022722

R 031500Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8168

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1785

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KN NO

SUBJ: NORTH KOREAN APPROACH TO NORWAY

BEGIN SUMMARY. DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS
VIBE PROVIDED CHARGE ON MAY 2 WITH TEXT OF REPORT
PREPARED IN FOREIGN MINISTRY ON RECENT VISIT TO
NORWAY OF FOUR-MAN NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION HEADED
BY DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER O MAN SOK. (FOREIGN
MINISTER FRYDENLUND ASKED VIBE TO PASS ON THE
INFORMATION AS FOLLOW-UP TO CONVERSATION WITH
AMBASSADOR BYRNE.) PURPOSE OF NORTH KOREAN VISIT
WAS TO REQUEST NORWEGIAN SUPPORT IN CONNECTION
WITH THE QUESTION OF "PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION" OF
KOREA AND PEACE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE U.S. END SUMMARY.

1. THE FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT OF
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY REPORT:

"THE PURPOSE OF DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER O

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MAN SOK'S VISIT WAS TO DELIVER A MESSAGE TO

PRIME MINISTER BRATTELI FROM PRESIDENT KIM II SUNG CONCERNING THE SITUATION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND THE EFFORTS AT UNIFICATION IN KOREA.

IT WAS CLAIMED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO KOREAN PARTIES HAD COME TO A STANDSTILL IN THE COORDINATION COMMITTEE, AND THAT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WAS AT THE SAME LEVEL AS BEFORE THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE OPENED.

THE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE COORDINATION COMMITTEE HAD SHOWN THAT SOUTH KOREA WAS INCAPABLE OF NEGOTIATION ON ITS OWN AND THAT THE U.S. WOULD NOT LOOSEN ITS GRIP ON THE COUNTRY. THE NORTH KOREAN PEOPLE'S CONGRESS HAD, THEREFORE, ON MARCH 25, 1974, DECIDED TO DIRECT A COMMUNICATION TO THE U.S. CONCERNING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND THE U.S., WITH THE AIM OF CONVERTING THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT INTO A PEACE TREATY.

IN THIS CONNECTION, THERE WAS ADVANCED TO THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT A REQUEST THAT IT:

A. CONTINUE TO SUPPORT NORTH KOREA'S POSITION ON PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION, AND

B. CONTRIBUTE TO BUILDING UP WORLD OPINION WHICH COULD PRESSURE THE U.S. TO ENTER INTO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA AND TO WITHDRAW AMERICAN TROOPS FROM SOUTH KOREA.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER O HAD LITTLE TO SAY ABOUT THE 29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE ONLY THING CONCRETE WAS THAT IT WILL BE PROPOSED THAT THE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS FROM SOUTH KOREA, WHICH WAS NOT SUBJECTED TO VOTING DURING THE 28TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BE TAKEN UP IN THE FALL UNLESS THE AMERICAN TROOPS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN IN THE MEANTIME UNDER THE PRESSURE OF WORLD OPINION.

THE GENERAL IMPRESSION FROM THE VISIT WAS THAT, ASIDE FROM BEING THE MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. O HAD NO AUTHORITY. HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION OF HAVING NEITHER AUTHORITY
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NOR SUFFICIENT INFLUENCE TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE INDEPENDENTLY IN POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS. THIS MEANT THAT BOTH THIS AND THE MORE INFORMAL EXCHANGES OF OPINION LATER WERE FROM THE KOREAN SIDE CARRIED ON IN A VERY UNILATERAL MANNER AND WERE OF LIMITED VALUE." END TEXT.

2. VIBE TOLD CHARGE IN EARLIER DISCUSSION OF THIS VISIT, THAT NORTH KOREA APPEARED AS LEAST AS CONCERNED

OVER JAPANESE ECONOMIC INFLUENCE IN SOUTH KOREA AS THE U.S. PRESENCE, ACCUSING SEOUL OF SELLING OUT TO THE JAPANESE. THEY ARGUED THAT THE UN IS A FACADE SINCE THE U.S. IS ONLY UN COUNTRY TO MAINTAIN FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA, AND THAT THE ONLY WAY TO BRING PEACE TO KOREA, IS TO COMPEL U.S. TO NEGOTIATE. VIBE SAID THAT NORWAY SIMPLY NOTED IN RESPONSE THAT THE UN HAD BEEN THE BODY TO MAKE PEACE IN KOREA AND COULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH DCM, SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR CHUL NAM MINIMIZED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF O MAN SOK'S DELEGATION SAYING HE EXPECTED ANOTHER DELEGATION, SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN ABOUT A FORTNIGHT FROM PYONGYANG, WOULD BE MORE IMPORTANT. ASKED ABOUT THIS SECOND DELEGATION, VIBE SAID IT IS COMING TO DISCUSS A TRADE AGREEMENT.

4. AT THE SWEDING NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION ON APRIL 30, TWO NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATS TALKED AT LENGTH WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN OFTEDAL. IN LATER CONVERSATION WITH DCM, OFTEDAL EXPLAINED THAT NORTH KOREANS WERE TRYING TO PERSUADE THE STORTING'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO ADD NORTH KOREA TO ITS SCHEDULED VISIT IN JUNE TO CHINA.

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